

Health News Release

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Thurston County: Classic Heights residents urged to boil drinking water

OLYMPIA — Customers of the Classic Heights water system northeast of Lacey, are advised to boil their drinking water because potentially harmful *E. coli* bacteria have been detected in routine monitoring samples. The advisory affects 180 homes.

The state Department of Health is working with Washington Water Service Co. to find the source of contamination and fix the problem, which will include disinfecting the system. Residents may notice a chlorine odor or taste in their water on Sunday. There have been no reports of illnesses related to the community's drinking water.

To kill bacteria, the state recommends that customers of Classic Heights boil tap water used for drinking, brushing teeth, dishwashing, preparing food, and making ice. Water should be boiled for one minute and allowed to cool before use.

The boil water advisory will remain in effect until Washington Water and the Department of Health are satisfied that the water no longer poses a health threat. Customers will be notified when the water is safe to drink; they can call 360-491-3760 with questions about the water.

The <u>Department of Health website</u> (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, <u>find us on Facebook</u> and <u>follow us on Twitter</u>.